

THE
Honest Yorkshire-Man.

A
BALLAD FARCE.

As it is performed at the
NEW THEATRE,

With great Applause.

Written by Mr. CAREY.

Nunc itaque et versus et caetera ludicra pono.

HOR. Ep. I.

Vol. A 5 f. 1216

GLASGOW:

Vol A 5 d in the year M D C C L V.

f. 1216

A C T O R S N A M E S .

At the T H E A T R E in the H A Y M A R K E T .

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Gaylove, a young barrister, in love with Arbella. | } | Mr. Salway. |
| Muckworm, uncle and guardian to Arbella. | } | Mr. Jones. |
| Sapscull, a county 'squire, intended for Arbella. | } | Mr. Esle. |
| Slango, servant to Gaylove, an arch fellow. | } | Young master Green. |
| Blunder, servant to Sapscull, a clown. | | Mr. Topping. |
| Arbella, niece to Muckworm, in love with Gaylove. | } | Mrs. Cantrell. |
| Combrush, her maid, a pert one. | | Mrs. Pritchard. |

At the T H E A T R E in G O O D M A N ' S F I E L D S .

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Gaylove, | Mr. Kelly. |
| Muckworm, | Mr. Norris. |
| Sapscull, | Mr. Bardin. |
| Slango, | Mr. Woodward. |
| Blunder, | Mr. Dove. |
| Arbella, | Miss. Gerrard. |
| Combrush, | Mrs. Roberts. |

St. Rothwell Cal. 1; 1954; 110.

P R O L O G U E.

THE great, the good, the wise in every age
 Have made a moral mirrour of the stage;
 While, to the shame and spite of tasteless fools,
 Terence still reigns a classic in our schools:
 But now the DRAMA fears a sad decline,
 And peevish hypocrites its fall combine.
 From stage, to stage, behold our author tofs'd,
 And, but for you, his genius crush'd and lost.
 No Wilks, no Booth! his labours to requite,
 He here takes shelter, studious to delight.

But to our FARCE——It has a double aim
 To honour wedlock, and put fools to shame;
 Folly and prejudice, too near a kin,
 Supply pert coxcombs with eternal grin;
 So infinitely stupid is whose mirth,
 They'll ridicule one's very place of birth,
 And cry, An honest Yorkshire Man! a wonder!
 But let them shoot their bolts, let blockheads blunder.
 The glorious heroes of the Yorkshire line,
 To time's last period shall in annals shine;
 While stand'ring slaves, who would those honours blot,
 Shall unregarded live,——and die forgot.

Mean and unmanly is such partial spite,
 Averse to nature's laws, to reason's light;
 All fellow-creatures, sure, should social be,
 Nay, even to brutes we owe humanity.

Our author does in virtue's cause engage,
 In hopes to make her shine upon the stage;
 A modest entertainment we intend,
 Willing to please, yet fearful to offend;
 Indulge us therefore, if you can't commend.

}

E P I L O G U E.

Spoken after the third night, in the summer-season, at the
HAYMARKET.

WE see with pleasure the indulgent town,
Won't let their veteran hard be quite cast down :
Spite of stage-tyrants, and their partial scoff,
He stood his trial, and came nobly off.
I told him, if the ladies did befriend him,
He'd gain his point, success would sure attend him.
This little house, this season of the year,
The town so thin, might give the man some fear :
But full of hopes, he follow'd fortune's call,
Better to act it here, than not at all.
'Tis a new practice, tho' I see no reason,
To shut the stage up all the summer season.
Our very candle-snuffer's winter's pay,
Will scarce support him in a summer's day.
Why do our angry grandfires vent their rage,
And persecute so fierce their once lov'd stage.
Lost to all taste of customary joys,
These old men quite forget they once were boys.
FIELDING and OATES may pray for London's may'r,
He's granted them a holiday this fair.
Then hither bring your daughters, friends and spouses ;
We'll find diversion, so you'll find full houses.
We don't pretend the tip-top to excel,
But 'tis some kind of merit to mean well.

T H E

Honest Yorkshire-Man.

S C E N E, *an apartment in Muckworm's house.*

Arbella, Combrush.

A I R I. By-Signior Porpora:

A R B E L L A.

GENTLE Cupid! seek my lover,
Waft a thousand sighs from me;
All my tender fears discover,
Bid him haste!——
O bid him haste, and set me free.

Combrush!

Comb. Ma'am.

Arb. No news from Gaylove yet?

Comb. Not a tittle, ma'am.

Arb. It quite distracts me.

Comb. And every body else, ma'am; for when you are out of humour, one may as well be out of the world. Well! this love is a strange thing; when once it gets possession of a young lady's heart, it turns her head quite topsy-turvy, and makes her out of humour with every body—I'm sure I have reason to say so.

Arb. Prithce leave your nonsense, and tell me something of Gaylove.

Comb. All I can tell you, ma'am, is, that he is stark staring mad for love of you. But this confounded uncle of yours.——

Arb. What of him?

Comb. Has just received news of the arrival of a rich country 'squire out of Yorkshire; which country 'squire is cut out for your husband.

Arb. They that cut a husband out for me, shall cut him out of better stuff, I assure you.

A

A I R II. In vain, dear Cloe, *etc.*

*Shall I stand still and tamely see
Such Smithfield bargains made of me?
Is not my heart my own?
I hate, I scorn their clownish 'squire,
Nor lord, or duke, do I desire,
But him I love alone.*

Comb. Well said, ma'am, I love a woman of spirit.

A I R III. Hark! away, 'tis the merry ton'd horn.

*Why should women so much be controul'd?
Why should men with our rights make so bold?
Let the battle 'twixt sexes be try'd
We shall soon prove the strongest side.
Then stand to your arms,
And trust to your charms,
Soon whining, and pining,
The men will pursue;
But if you grow tame,
They'll but make you their game,
And prove perfect tyrants
If once they subdue.*

Exeunt.

S C E N E, a street near the house.

Gaylove and Slango.

Gayl. No way to get at her?

Slang. The devil a bit, Sir; old Muckworm has cut off all communication: but I have worse news to tell you yet.

Gayl. That's impossible.

Slang. Your mistress is to be married to another, and that quickly.

Gayl. Married! you surprize me; to whom?

Slang. To 'squire Sapsull, a Yorkshire gentleman, of a very great estate.

Gayl. Confusion! can she be so false? to Sapsull! I know him well, of Sapsull-Hall—I was born within a mile and an half of the place; his father is the greatest rogue in the county, the very man I am now suing for what my late brother mortgag'd to him, when I was a student at Cambridge. Is he not content to with-hold my right from me, but he must seek to rob me of the only happiness I desire in life?

A I R IV. The charms of Florimel.

I.

*My charming Arabell,
To make thee mine secure,
What would I not endure?
'Tis past the pow'r of tongue to tell,
The love I bear my Arabell.*

II.

*No human force shall quell
My passion for my dear,
Can love be too sincere?
I'd sooner take of life farewell
Than of my dearest Arabell.*

Is there no way to prevent this match? you were not us'd to be thus barren of invention.

Slang. Nor am I now, Sir; your humble servant has invent-
ed already, — and such a scheme! ———

Gayl. How! which way, dear Slango?

Slang. Why thus, ——— I must personate Arbella, (with this sweet face) and you her uncle, under which disguises we may intercept the country 'quire, and get his credentials; equip-
ment with which, — I leave you to guess the rest.

Gayl. Happy invention! success attend it.

Slang. I can't say Amen; though I'd do any thing to serve you. Do you know the result, Sir? no less than the forfeiture of your dear liberty. Have you forgot the song of *the Dog and the Bone*?

[N. B. The following song is taken from Mr. Wordsdale's Cure for a Scold, inserted here by his permission, and very proper to be sung in this place, by Slango, for the future]

Tune, *When the bright god of day.*

I.

*Who'er to a wife
Is link'd, for his life,
Is plac'd in most wretched condition:
Tho' plagu'd with her tricks,
Like a blister she sticks,
And death is his only physician,
And death is his only physician.*

THE HONEST YORKSHIRE MAN.

II.

To trifle and toy,
May give a man joy,
When summon'd by love or by beauty;
But, where is the bliss in
Our conjugal kissing,
When passion is prompted by duty,
When passion is prompted by duty.

III.

The cur who possess'd
Of mutton the best,
A bone he could leave at his pleasure:
But, if to his tail
'Tis ty'd, without fail
He's harass'd and plagu'd beyond measure,
He's harass'd and plagu'd beyond measure.

Gayl. I am now of a contrary opinion: vice looks so hateful, and virtue so amiable in my eye, especially as 'tis the ready road to true happiness, I am resolv'd to pursue its paths. A regular life, and a good wife for me.

A I R V. Answer to the above song.

To the same tune..

I.

That man who for life,
Is bless'd in a wife,
Is sure in a happy condition:
Go things how they will,
She sticks by him still,
She's comforter, friend, physician,
She's etc.

II.

Pray where is the joy,
To trifle and toy,
Yet dread some disaster from beauty?
But sweet is the bliss
Of a conjugal kiss,
Where love mingles pleasure with duty,
Where, etc.

III.

*One extravagant whore,
 Shall cost a man more,
 Than twenty good wives who are saving;
 For wives they will spare,
 That their children may share,
 But whores are eternally craving.
 But, etc.*

[Exeunt.]

S C E N E, another street.

Sapscull and Blunder, staring about.

Sapf. Wuns-lent! what a mortal big place this same London is! ye mun ne'er see end on't, for sure;—housen upon housen, folk upon folk—one would admire where they did grow all of 'em.

Blund. Ay, master, and this is nought to what you'll see an by, and ye go to Tower ye mun see great hugeous ships as tall as housen: then ye mun go to playhousen, and there be no less nor six of 'em, a hopeful company, 'o my conscience! there you'll see your comical tragedies, and your uproars, and roara-toribusses, and hear Fardinello, that sings Solfa better nor our minster choir-men: and more nor that, ye mun ha' your choice of the prattiest lasses, ye e'er set een on.

Sapf. By th' mess, and I'll be some body among 'em——so I will——but how mun we find out this same Sir Penurious Muckworm?

Blund. Ye mun look to letter for that.

Sapf. Letter says, G-r-o-z-Groz-v-e-e ne-r-neer Grozve-neer square: but how mun we know where this same Grozve-neer square is?

Blund. Why ye mun ask ostler for that, he'll set you right for sure: for your London ostlers are wiser by half than our country justasses.

Sapf. Ay, Blunder, ev'ry thing's fine in London.

A I R VI. London is a fine town.

I.

- " *O London is a dainty place,*
 " *A great and gallant city,*
 " *For all the streets are pav'd with gold,*
 " *And all the folks are witty.*

II.

- " *And there's your lords and ladies fine,*
 " *That ride in coach and six,*
 " *That nothing drink but claret wine,*
 " *And talk of politics.*

III.

- " *And there's your beaux, with powder'd cloaths,*
 " *Be-daub'd from head to chin ;*
 " *Their pocket holes adorn'd with gold,*
 " *But not one souse within.*

IV.

- " *And there's the English actor goes*
 " *With many a hungry belly,*
 " *While heaps of gold are forc'd, God wot,*
 " *On Signior Farrinelli.*

V.

- " *And there's your dames, of dainty frames,*
 " *With skins as white as milk,*
 " *Drest every day, in garments gay,*
 " *Of satin, and of silk.*

VI.

- " *And if your mind be so inclin'd,*
 " *To have them in your arms,*
 " *Pull out a handsome—purse of gold,*
 " *They can't resist its charms.*

To them Gaylove as Muckworm.

Gayl. Welcome to London, dear 'squire Sapsull. I hope your good father's well, and all at Sapsull-Hall.

Sapf. Did ye e'er hear the like, Blunder? this old gentleman knows me as well as I knows myself. [To Blunder aside.

Blund. Ay, master, your Londoneers knows every thing.

Gayl. I had letters of your coming, and was resolv'd to meet you.

Sapf. Pray, Sir, who may you be, an I may be so bold?

Gayl. My name, Sir, is Muckworm.

Sapf. What, Sir Penurious Muckworm?

Gayl. So they call me.

Sapf. Sir, if your name be Sir Penurious Muckworm, my name is Samuel Sapsull, jun. Esq; son of Sir Samuel Sapsull of Sapsull-Hall i'th' East-Riding o' Yorkshire.

Gayl. Sir, I am no stranger to your family and merit; for which reason I sent for you to town, to marry my niece with 6000 l. fortune, and a pretty girl in the bargain.

Blund. Look ye there, master! [Aside to Sapscurll.

Saps. Hold your peace, you blockhead. [Aside to Blunder.

Gayl. But how may I be sure that you are the very 'squire Sapscurll I sent for. Have you no letters, no credentials?

Saps. Open the portmantell, Blunder——yes, Sir, I ha' brought all my tackle with me. Here, Sir, is a letter from father;——[Gives a letter.]——And here, Sir, are deeds and writings, to shew what you mun ha' to trust to: and here, Sir, is marriage-settlement, sign'd by father, in fit case young gentlewoman and I likes one another.

Gayl. Sir, she can't chuse but admire so charming a person. There is but one obstacle that I know of.

Saps. What may that be, an I may be so bold?

Gayl. Your habit, Sir; your habit.

Saps. Why, Sir, 'twas counted wondrous fine in our country last parlementeering time.

Gayl. O, Sir, but it's old fashion'd now, and my niece loves every thing to the tip top of the mode. But if you'll go along with me, I'll equip you in an instant.

A I R VII. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

*Come hither, my country squire,
Take friendly instructions from me;
The lords shall admire,
Thy taste in attire,
The ladies shall languish for thee.*

C H O R U S.

*Such flaunting,
Gallanting,
And jaunting,
Such frolicking thou shall see,
Thou ne'er like a clown,
Shalt quit London's sweet town,
To live in thine own country.*

II.

*A skinning-dish hat provide,
With little more brim than lace;
Nine hairs on a side,
To a pig's tail ty'd,*

THE HONEST YORKSHIRE-MAN.

*Will set off thy jolly broad face.
Such flaunting, etc.*

III

*Go get thee a footman's frock,
A cudgel quite up to thy nose,
Then frizz like a shock,
And plaister thy block,
And buckle thy shoes at thy toes.
Such flaunting, etc.*

IV.

*A brace of ladies fair,
To pleasure thee shall strive,
In a chaise and pair,
They shall take the air,
And thou in the box shalt drive.
Such flaunting, etc.*

V.

*Convert thy acres to cash,
And saw thy timber trees down,
Who'd keep such trash,
And not cut a flash,
Or enjoy the delights of the town.
Such flaunting, etc.*

[Exeunt.

S C E N E, *an apartment.*

Arbella and Combrush.

A I R VIII. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

Arb. *In vain you mention pleasure
To one confin'd like me,
Ah what is wealth or treasure,
Compar'd to liberty.*

II.

*O thou for whom I languish,
And dost the same for me,
Relieve a virgin's anguish,
And set a captive free.*

To them Muckworm.

Muck. Come, there's a good girl; don't be in the pouts, now.

Comb. I think it's enough to put any young lady in the pouts, to deny her the man she likes, and force her to marry a great loobily Yorkshire tike. In short, Sir, my mistress don't like him, and won't have him—nay, I don't like him, and tell you flat and plain she shan't have him.

Muck. Shan't have him, Mrs. Snapdragon!

Comb. No, shan't have him, Sir—if I were she, I'd see who should force me to marry against my will.

Muck. Was ever such an impudent hussy; but I'll send you a packing. Get out of my house, you saucy baggage.

Arb. Sir, tho' you have the care of my estate, you have no command over my servants; I am now your ward, not your slave; if you use me thus, you'll constrain me to chuse another guardian.

Muck. [*Aside.*] A gipsy! who taught her this cunning? I must hasten this match, or lose 1000 *l.* by the bargain. [*To Arb.*] What a bustle is here with a peevish love-sick girl? pray, child, have you learnt Cupid's catechism? do you know what love is?

Arb. Yes, Sir.—

A I R IX. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

*Love's a gentle generous passion.
Source of all sublime delight,
When with mutual inclination,
Two fond hearts in one unite.
Two fond, etc.*

II.

*What are titles, pomp or riches,
If compar'd with true content?
That false joy which now bewitches,
When obtain'd we may repent.
When obtain'd, etc.*

III.

*Lawless passions bring vexation,
But a chaste and constant love,
Is a glorious emulation
Of the blissful state above.
Of the, etc.*

Enter a Servant.

Serv. Sir, one 'squire Sapsfull out of Yorkshire, desires to speak with you.

Muck. I'm glad he's come—desire him to walk in.

Servant goes out, and returns with Gaylove dress'd in Sapsfull's cloaths.

Gayl. Sir, an your name be Sir Penurious Muckworm.

Muck. Sir, I have no other; may I crave yours.

Gayl. Samuel Sapsfull, jun. Esq; at your lordship's service.

Muck. A very mannerly towardly youth, and a comely one, I assure you. [To Arbella.]

Gayl. Pray, Sir, an I may be so bold, which of these two pratty lasses is your niece, and my wife, that mun be.

Arb. What a brute is this? before I'd have such a wretch for a husband, I'd die ten thousand deaths.

Muck. Which do you like best, Sir?

Gayl. Marry, an I were to chuse, I'd take 'em both.

Muck. Very courtly, indeed. I see the 'squire's a wag.

Comb. Both! I'll assure you, saucebox; the worst is too good for you.

A I R. X. *Gilly-flow'r, gentle rosemary.*

I.

Why how now, Sir Clown, dost set up for a wit?

Gilly-flow'r, gentle rosemary:

If here you should wed, you're as certainly bit;

As the dew it flies over the mulberry tree.

II.

If such a fine lady to wife you should take,

Gilly flow'r, gentle rosemary:

Your heart, head, and horns, shall as certainly ake,

As the dew it flies over the mulberry tree.

Muck. Insufferable assurance, affront a gentleman in my house! never mind her, Sir; she's none of my niece, only a pert slut of a chambermaid.

Gayl. A chamber jade! Lord, lord, how brave you keep your maidens here in London! wuns-lent, she's as fine as our lady mayores.

Muck. Ay, her mistress spoils her; but follow me, Sir, and I'll warrant you we'll manage her, and her mistress too.

A I R XI. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

Gayl.

- " I am in truth,
" A country youth,
" Unus'd to London fashions;
" Yet virtue guide;
" And still presides,
" O'er all my steps and passions:
" No courtly leer,
" But all sincere,
" No bribe shall ever blind me;
" If you can like,
" A Yorkshire tike,
" An honest lad you'll find me.

II.

- " Tho' envy's tongue,
" With slander hung,
" Does oft bely our country;
" No men on earth,
" Boast greater worth,
" Or more extend their bounty:
" Our northern breeze,
" With us agrees,
" And does for business fit us;
" In public cares,
" In loves affairs,
" With honour we acquit us.

III.

- " A noble mind
" Is ne'er confin'd
" To any shire, or nation,
" He gains most praise,
" Who best displays
" A gen'rous education,
" While rancour rous
" In narrow souls,
" By narrow views discerning,
" The truly wise,
" Will only prize,
" Good manners, sense, and learning.

[All this time Gaylove does his utmost to discover himself to Arbella, but she turns from him, and won't understand him.]

Gayl. Well, an ye wunna see, I cannot help it. Good-by-t'ye, forsooth; in the mean time, here's a paper with something in it that will clear your lordship's eyesight.

[Throws down a letter, and Exit, smiling.]

Arb. What can the fool mean?

Comb. (*Taking up the letter*) Madam, as I live, here's a letter from Mr. Gaylove.

Arb. This is surprising! [*Snatches the letter and reads.*

THO' this disguise is put on to blind old Muckworm, I hope it will not conceal from my dear Arbella, the person of her ever constant

GAYLOVE.

Blind fool that I was! I could tear my eyes out.

Comb. Lord, ma'am, who the duce could have thought it had been Mr. Gaylove. Well, our maidenheads certainly stood in our lights this bout.

Arb. Hold your prattle; I have great hopes of this enterprise, however it carries a good face with it; but whether it succeeds or no, I must love the dear man that ventures so hard for my sake.

A I R XII. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

" That man who best can danger dare
" Is most deserving of the fair;
" The bold and brave we women prize,
" The whining slave we all despise,
" The whining, *etc.*

II.

" Let coxcombs flatter, cringe and lie,
" Pretend to languish, pine, and die;
" Such men of words my scorn shall be,
" The man of deeds is the man for me,
" The man, *etc.*

[Exit.

Comb. My mistress is intirely in the right on't.

A I R XIII. I had a pretty lass, a tenant of my own.

" The man that ventures fairest,
" And furthest for my sake,
" With a fal, la, la, *etc.*

THE HONEST YORKSHIRE-MAN.

17

" The soonest of my purse
 " And my person shall partake.
 " With a fal, la, la, etc.
 " No drowsy drone shall ever
 " A conquest make of me,
 " But to a lad that's clever,
 " How civil could I be?
 " With a fal, la, la, etc.

[Exeunt.]

Enter Sapsull drest a-la-mode de petit maitre, Blunder in a rich livery, with his hair tuck'd up and powder'd behind.

Blund. Mefs, master, how fine ye be; marry, believe me an ye were at Sapsull-Hall, I dare say, Sir Samuel himself wou'd hardly know ye.

Saps. Know ye, marry, I don't know myself——
 [Surveying himself.]——I'm so fine: and thou art quite another sort of a creature too.——[Turns Blunder about.]——
 Well, talk what ye list o' Yorkshire, I say there's nought like London; for my part, I don't care an I ne'er see the face of Sapsull-Hall agen.

Blund. What need ye, an ye getten 6000 l. with young gentlewoman; besides, father has ty'd estate fast enough to ye;——an I were as ye, I'd e'en bide here, and live as lofty as the best o' 'em.

Saps. Ay, Blunder, so I will, and see Bartledom fair too.

Blund. That ye mun not, for I did hear 'em talk, at the Green Man at Barnet, as how the may'r had cry'd it down.

Saps. How! cry'd down Bartledom fair! what a murrain is London good for then? I wou'dn't bide here and they'd gi'e me——I thought to have had such fun now——

" A I R XIV. Bartholomew-Fair.

I.

" O Bartledom Fair,
 " Since thy lord mayor
 " Has cry'd thee down;
 " There's nought worth regarding,
 " I'd not give a farding,
 " For London town.
 " Such pork, such pig,
 " Such game, such rig.

B

" *Such rattling there ;*
 " *But all's done,*
 " *There's no fun*
 " *At Bartledom Fair.*

II.

" *Farewel all joys,*
 " *Of 'prentice boys,*
 " *And pretty maids ;*
 " *The country and court,*
 " *Have lost all their sport,*
 " *And the shew-folks their trades ;*
 " *Nay, even the cit,*
 " *In a generous fit,*
 " *Would take spousfey there ;*
 " *But all's done,*
 " *There's no fun*
 " *At Bartledom Fair.*

To them, a Servant, well drefs'd.

Serv. Gentlemen, I come from Sir Penurious Muckworm, I am his servant, and wait on purpose to conduct you to Mrs. Arbella's apartment.

Sapf. Servant! waunds, why you're finer nor your master.

Serv. O, Sir, that's nothing in London.

S C E N E, *an apartment.*

Slango representing Arbella, Servant introduces Sapsfull and Blunder.

Sapf. Well, forsooth, you know my business; few words are best among friends——is it a match, or no?——say, ay; and I'll second you.

Slang. A very compendious way of wooing, truly.

[*Aside.*] I hope you'll spare a maiden's blushes, Sir; but lard gad you are too quick upon me.

Sapf. I means to be quicker yet, ay marry, and make thee quick too, afore I ha' done with thee.

Slang. I protest, Sir, you put me to such a nonplus, I don't know what to say.

Sapf. Ne'er heed; parson shall teach thee what to say. For my part, I have con'd my lesson afore-hand.

Slang. But will you love me?

Sapf. Love thee? Lord, lord, I loves thee better than I does

my Bay Filley; did you ne'er see her, forsooth? od, she's a dainty tit, and sure I am,———I loves her better nor I do nown father.———Blunder, run and fet a parson.

Slang. Mr. Blunder may save himself that trouble, Sir, I have provided one already.

Sapf. Why then, let's make haste, dear sweet honey, for I do long till it's over. *Exeunt.*

Enter Gaylove and Arbella.

A I R XV. Set by the AUTHOR.

I.

Gayl. *Thou only darling I admire,
My heart's delight, my soul's desire;
Possessing thee I've greater store,
Than king to be of India's shore.*

II.

*For every woman were there three,
And in the world no man but me;
I'd single you from all the rest,
To sweeten life, and make me blest.*

Arb. Well! I never was so deceiv'd in my life! how could you clown it so naturally?

Gayl. What is it I would not do, for your dear sake? but, I intreat you, let's lay hold of this opportunity, and put it out of fortune's power ever to divide us.

Arb. What would you have me to do?

Gayl. Leave all to me. I have left Combrush to amuse your uncle, while a fellow-collegiate of mine, who is in orders, waits in the next room to finish the rest.

Arb. Do what you will with me: for, in short, I don't know what to do with myself.

A I R XVI. The nymph that undoes me.

I.

Arb. *Let prudes and coquets their intentions conceal;
With pride, and with pleasure, the truth I reveal;
You're all I can wish, and all I desire;
So fix'd is my flame, it ne'er can expire.
So fix'd is my flame, etc.*

B 2

II.

Gayl. *Let rakes, and let libertines, revel and range,
Possess'd of such treasure, what mortal would change?
You're the source of my hope, the spring of my joy,
A fountain of bliss that never can cloy.
A fountain of bliss, etc.*

A I R XVII. By Mr. HANDEL.

[Gaylove and Arbella together.

*How transporting is the pleasure,
When two hearts like ours unite?
When our fondness knows no measure,
And no bounds our dear delight.*

[Exit.

Enter Muckworm and Combruff.

Muck. Well; I forgive you: this last action has made amends for all. I find a chamber-maid is prime minister in matrimonial affairs——and you say, they are quite loving?

Comb. Fond, fond, Sir, as two turtles! but I beg you wou'd not disturb 'em.

Muck. By no means; let 'em have their love out, pretty fools! I shall be glad, however, to see some of their little fondnesses: but tell me seriously, how do you like the 'Squire?

Comb. Oh! of all things, Sir; and so does my mistress, I assure you.

Muck. How that scoundrel, Gaylove, will be disappointed!

Comb. He'll be ready to hang himself, (about her neck.)

[Aside.

Muck. They'll make ballads upon him.

Comb. I have made one already, and will sing it if you please.

Muck. With all my heart.

A I R XVIII. A beggar got a beadle.

I.

*There was a certain usurer,
He had a pretty niece;
Was courted by a barrister,
Who was her doating piece.
Her uncle to prevent the same,
Did all that in him lay,
For which he's very much to blame,
As all good people say.*

II.

*A country 'squire was to wed
This fair and dainty dame ;
But such contraries in a bed,
Would be a monst'rous shame :
To see a lady bright and gay,
Of fortune, and of charms,
So shamefully be thrown away,
Into a looby's arms.*

III.

*The lovers, thus distracted,
It set 'em on a plot ;
Which lately has been acted,
And———shall I tell you what ?
The gentleman disguis'd himself
Like to the country 'squire,
Deceived the old mischievous elf,
And got his heart's desire.*

Muck. I don't like his song.

Comb. Then you don't like truth, Sir.

Muck. What d'ye mean to affront me ?

Comb. Would you have me tell a lye, Sir ?

Muck. Get out of my house, you baggage.

Comb. I only stay to take my mistress with me; and see,
here she comes.

To them Gaylove and Arbella.

Muck. So, Sir; you have deceiv'd me; but I'll provide you
a wedding-suit; a fine long Chancery suit, before ever you
touch a penny of her fortune.

Gayl. Sir, if you dare embezzle a farthing, I'll provide you
with a more lasting garment; a curious stone-doublet: you have
met with your match, Sir; I have studied the law, ay, and
practis'd it too.

Muck. The devil take you, and the law together.—

To them Sapskull and Slango.

—Hey day! who in the name of wonder have we got here ?

Gayl. Only 'squire Sapskull, his bride, and boobily man.

Slang. Come, my dear! hold up your head like a man, and
let him see what an elegant husband I have got.

Blund. Ay; and let 'em see what a dainty wife my master has gotten.

Sapf. Here's a pow'r of fine folk, sweet honey wife! pray, who may they be?

Slang. This, Sir, is Sir Penurious Muckworm—

Sapf. No honey! I fear you are mistaken. Sir Penurious is another guise sort of a man; an I mistake not, he's more liker yon same gentleman.

Blund. Ay, so he is, master.

Slang. That same gentleman was Sir Penurious Muckworm, some time ago, but now he's chang'd to George Gaylove, Esq;

Gayl. At your service, Sir.

Sapf. And who's yon fine lady?

Gayl. My wife, Sir, and that worthy knight's niece.

Sapf. Your wife! and that knight's niece! why who a murrain have I gotten then?

Gayl. My man, Slang; and I wish you much joy.

Sapf. Your man, Slang! what have I married a man, then?

Slang. If you don't like me, my dear, we'll be divorc'd this minute.

Sapf. My dear, a murrain take such dears! where's my writings? I'll ha' you all hang'd for cheats.

Gayl. You had better hang yourself for a fool. Go home, child, go home, and learn more wit. There's your deed of settlement; but as for the writings, they happen to be mine, and kept fraudulently from me by your father, to whom they were mortgaged by my late brother. The estate has been clear these three years. Send your father to me and I'll talk to him. This is but tit for tat, young gentleman. Your father wanted to get my estate from me; and I have got the wife he intended for you. All's fair, Sir.

Muck. I say all's foul, and a damn'd cheat; and so I'll make it appear.

[Exit, in a rage.]

Gayl. Do your worst, Sir, you can't unmarry us.

A I R XIX. Set by the AUTHOR.

Arb. *Now fortune is past its severest,
My passion, of mortal's sincerest,
Kind heaven has repaid in my dearest;
What gift can it greater bestow?*

Gayl. *True love shall thro' destiny guide us,
Still constant whatever betide us,
There's nothing but death shall divide us,
So faithful a fondness we'll show.*

B O T H.

*By Cupid and Hymen united,
By dangers no longer affrighted,
We'll live in each other delighted,
The greatest of blessings below.*

Sapf. What mun I do? I mun ne'er see father's face again.

Gayl. Never fear, 'squire, I'll set all to rights; tho' your father's my enemy, I'm not your's: my house shall be your home, till I have reconcil'd you to your father; and for the honour of Yorkshire, I'll see you shan't be abus'd here.

Sapf. Say ye so, Sir? then I do wish you much joy with all my heart.

Blund. Ay, and so does Blunder too.

Sapf. Well, sin I see you be so happy in a wife, I'll not be long without one, I assure you.

Gayl. You can't be happier than I wish you.

A I R XX. Set by the AUTHOR.

C H O R U S.

I.

Gayl. *Come learn by this, ye batchelors,
Come learn by this, ye batchelors,
Who lead unsettled lives,
When once ye come to serious thought,
When once ye come to serious thought,
There's nothing like good wives,
There's nothing like good wives.*

II.

Arb. *Come learn by this, ye maidens fair,
Come learn, etc.
Say I advise you well,
You're better in a husband's arms.
You're better, etc.
Than leading apes in hell,
Than leading, etc.*

III.

Sapf. *A batchelor's a cormorant,*
A batchelor, etc.
A batchelor's a drone,
He eats and drinks at all men's cost,
He eats, etc.
But seldom at his own,
But seldom, etc.

IV.

Comb. *Old maids and fusty batchelors,*
Old maids, etc.
At marriage rail and low'r,
So when the fox cou'dn't reach the grapes,
So when, etc.
He cry'd, they all were sow'r,
He cry'd, etc.

O M N E S.

Old maids, etc.



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